Progress in Control Engineering, Vol. I. Edited by R. H. MACMILLAN, T. J. HIGGINS, and P. NASLIN. Academic Press, New York, 1962. 260 pp $10.00.

A suitable subtitle for this book would be "The Proceedings of the First Trinational (Britain, France, U. S. A.) Conference on Automatic Control Theory and Practice." In other words, what we have here is a small-scale version of the IFAC proceedings with the content mainly devoted to longer survey or review articles. As is true with most proceedings of this type: (i) the content usually represents a collection of more or less unrelated topics depending more upon the authors involved and upon the requirement to give equal representation to the participating nations rather than upon any conscious effort of the organizers, (ii) some of the material is already obsolete by the time it is published. This is also the case with the present book. It contains eight papers in some 260 pages. A listing of the titles and authors are given below:

The Place of Digital Computers in Control. M. V. WILKES
Time Lag Systems. N. H. CHOMSKY
Application of Statistical Methods to Control System Design. M. J. PELEGRIN
Frequency Response Methods Applied to Non-linear Systems. P. E. W. GRENSTED
The Human Operator in Control Instrumentation. T. B. SHERIDAN
The Governing of Diesel Engines. D. B. WELBOURN
Operational and Transform Techniques. B. M. BROWN
Automatic Control by Pneumatics. R. MOLLE and J. RASQUINET

To the reviewer, the articles on time lag systems and on human operators are the most interesting and useful. The article on statistical design of control systems is incomplete, in view of the lack of the rather substantial and important post-1960 literature on stochastic estimation and control. Many of the open problems in the article have since been solved. Depending on the interest and need of the particular reader, the other articles may or may not appeal to him.

As was pointed out by the editors, control engineering has reached a level of development to warrant a publishing outlet for longer review articles. "Progress in Control Engineering" is a good first step in that direction.

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